

Serial No. 09/932 435

Attorney Docket No. 1942.PC

**In the Claims:**

1. (Previously presented) A hair cosmetic composition comprising a fixative effective amount of xanthan gum, wherein the composition has a high humidity curl retention of at least about 80% for two hours at 90% relative humidity, and wherein the xanthan gum has been heat treated at a moisture content of less than about 8%, a temperature of at least about 100°C for at least about 30 minutes, wherein the cosmetic composition is a hair fixative composition.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Currently amended) The composition of claim [[3]] 1, wherein the temperature is at least 105°C.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Currently amended) The composition of claim [[3]] 1, wherein the moisture content is less than about 1%.
7. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the heat treatment is for at least about one hour.
8. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 7 wherein the heat treatment is for at least about 2.5 hours.
9. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the heat treatment is at a moisture of less than about 1% and the temperature is at least about 105°C for at least about 2.5 hours.

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10. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is selected from the group consisting of a spray, a mousse, a hair lotion, a cream, a pomade, and a gel.
11. (Original) The composition of claim 10, wherein the composition is a gel.
12. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1 characterized by a viscosity of at least about 8000 cps, and a turbidity of no more than about 100 NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units).
13. (Original) The composition of claim 1, further comprising a second fixative polymer.
14. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 13 wherein the second fixative polymer is selected from the group consisting of acrylates copolymer, octylacrylamide/acrylates/butylaminoethyl methacrylate copolymer, acrylates/octylacrylamide copolymer, VA/crotonates/vinyl Neodecanoate copolymer, poly(N-vinyl acetamide), poly(N-vinyl formamide), polyurethane, corn starch modified, sodium polystyrene sulfonate, polyquaternium-4, polyquaternium-10 and polyurethane/acrylates copolymer.
15. (Cancelled)
16. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 11 further comprising a second fixative polymer.
17. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 16 wherein the second fixative polymer is selected from the group consisting of acrylates copolymer, octylacrylamide/acrylates/butylaminoethyl methacrylate copolymer, acrylates/octylacrylamide copolymer, VA/crotonates/vinyl Neodecanoate copolymer, poly(N-vinyl acetamide), poly(N-vinyl formamide), polyurethane, corn starch modified, sodium polystyrene sulfonate, polyquaternium-4, polyquaternium-10 and polyurethane/acrylates copolymer.

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18. (Original) A method of preparing the composition of claim 1, comprising dispersing the xanthan gum in water; and mixing in other hair cosmetic components.
19. (Cancelled)
20. (Original) A method of preparing the composition of claim 17 comprising dispersing the xanthan gum in water; and mixing in other hair cosmetic components.
21. (Original) A method of providing fixative properties to the hair comprising applying the composition of claim 1.
22. (Original) A method of providing curl retention under high humidity conditions comprising applying the composition of claim 1.
23. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is a surfactant-free hair mousse.
24. (Currently amended) A hair cosmetic composition, wherein the fixative consists essentially of a xanthan gum and the high humidity curl retention is at least about 80% after two hours at 90% relative humidity, and wherein the xanthan gum has been heat treated at a moisture content of less than about 8%, a temperature of at least about 100°C for at least about 30 minutes, wherein the composition is a hair fixative composition.
25. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 24, wherein the composition is selected from the group consisting of a spray, a mousse, a hair lotion, a cream, a pomade, and a gel.
26. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 25, wherein the composition is a gel.

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27. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 24 characterized by a viscosity of at least about 8000 cps, and a turbidity of no more than about 100 NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units).
28. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 24, wherein the composition is a surfactant-free hair mousse.